UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/221,250	12/28/98	WALKER J	WD2-98-057

022927
WALKER DIGITAL
FIVE HIGH RIDGE PARK
STAMFORD CT 06905

WM02/1019

EXAMINER	
RAO, A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2613	9

DATE MAILED: 10/19/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/221,250	WALKER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andy S. Rao	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 November 2000* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-179* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-179* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. See attached form US-PTO-948 for specific informalities. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Specification

2. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 27-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as failing to set forth the subject matter which applicant(s) regard as their invention. Evidence that claim 27 fail(s) to correspond in scope with that which applicant(s) regard as the invention can be found in the specification, in which the applicant has stated that the information relating the monitoring task is transmitted by the central server to the user at approximately the start of the shift, and not the other way around as has been set forth in the claim. It is unclear how the user would receive the information if that user is transmitting that information to the central server. Clarification and/or correction is needed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-179 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Acosta et al., (hereinafter referred to as "Acosta") in view of Von Kohorn.

Acosta discloses a method for a central server to manage remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: receiving a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location (Acosta: column 28, lines 45-55); determining a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enabling communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68), as in claim 1. However, Acosta fails to disclose crediting value to the user in accordance with an amount of time that the user device has been in communication with the sensor for remote monitoring purposes. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station

managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the user device being a computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 3, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the request including an account identifier (Acosta: column 28, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 4, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has a task identifier (Von Kohorn: column 79, lines 20-25; column 79, lines 63-68; column 80, lines 1-41; column 82, lines 30-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 5-6, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has a step for determining a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 7, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of not communicating the location of the identity to the user (Acosta: column 26, lines 55-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 8, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of registering users (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-20), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 9, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has communication across the Internet (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 10, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has both audio and video communication (Acosta: column 55, lines 45-55), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 11, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has crediting value to a financial account (Von Kohorn: column 26, lines 10-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 12-14, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has determining whether predetermined criteria have been satisfied prior enabling communication between the sensor and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 39-52), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 15, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the steps of disabling communication between the sensor at the remote location and the user (Acosta: column 17, lines 40-68; column 18, lines 1-5), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 16-17, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has transmitting a test communication to the user at a the user device (Von Kohorn: column 71, lines 30-42), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 18-19, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has outputting an offer to the user at the user device to enter the user in a sweepstakes (Von Kohorn: column 64, lines 30-65), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 20-22, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has transmitting entertainment video at the user device (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 45-51), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 23-24, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has contacting a third party in response to the received notification (Acosta: column 7, lines 40-60; column 9, lines 35-45), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 25, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of determining a pay-rate and crediting value to the user in accordance with the pay-rate (Acosta: column 14, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 26, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has crediting value to the user including a bonus for each legitimate emergency detected by the users (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a method for a central server to manage remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: assigning to a user of a data networks a remote monitoring task (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65) including a remote location to monitor (Acosta: column 26, lines 25-35) and a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-49); providing the user with information relating to the remote monitoring task (Acosta: column 7, lines 30-40) as in claim 27. However, Acosta fails to disclose that the

information would be transmitted to the user by the central server at the start of a shift. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station including information to be transmitted to the user at the start of an event in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 27.

Regarding claim 28, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the request including an account identifier (Acosta: column 28, lines 60-65), a task identifier (Von Kohorn: column 79, lines 20-25; column 79, lines 63-68; column 80, lines 1-41; column 82, lines 30-40), and the shift (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 29, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has communication across the Internet (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 30, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has communication cable TV (Von Kohorn: column 126, lines 25-42), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 31-32, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has determining whether predetermined criteria have been satisfied prior to providing the user with the information (Acosta: column 26, lines 39-52), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 33-35, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of prevent a user from monitoring a remote location (Acosta: column 16, lines 55-68; column 17, lines 1-16), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 36, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has assigning a remote monitoring task based on user preferences (Acosta: column 31, lines 30-46), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 37-39, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has contacting a third party in response to the received notification (Acosta: column 7, lines 40-60; column 9, lines 35-45), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 40, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of reminding the user of the remote monitoring task prior to the start of the shift (Acosta: column 11, lines 20-25), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a method for a central server to manage remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: determining a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enabling communication between a sensor at the remote location and a plurality of users of a data network (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68); determining an amount of time each user of the plurality of users has monitored the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 35-60), as in claim 41. However, Acosta fails to disclose crediting value to each

user of the plurality of users for monitoring the remote location in accordance with the amount of time that each user has monitored the remote location. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 41.

Regarding claim 42, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has a step for determining a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 43, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of recruiting users (Von Kohorn: column 50, lines 30-50), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 44, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has informing a user of the plurality of users (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 45-46, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has contacting a third party in response to the received notification (Acosta: column 7, lines 40-60; column 9, lines 35-45), as in the claims.

Acosta discloses a method for a central server to manage remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: receiving a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location in exchange for value (Acosta: column 28, lines 45-55); determining a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enabling communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68), as in claim 47. However, Acosta fails to disclose measuring user attentiveness while the user device is in communication with the sensor Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users for measured attentiveness (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) while watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 47.

Regarding claim 48, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the user device being a computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 49, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has a step for determining a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 50-52, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has determining whether predetermined criteria have been satisfied prior enabling communication between the sensor and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 39-52), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 53, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has crediting value to a financial account (Von Kohorn: column 26, lines 10-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 54-59, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of transmitting a test communication to the user at the user device (Acosta: column 71, lines 25-41; column 82, lines 26-49), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 60, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has enabling a second user to monitor the user monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 31, lines 33-38), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 61, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of causing an audible alarm to be transmitted to the user at the user if the user is not attentive (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 62-66, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of penalizing the user (Acosta: column 27, lines 25-37), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 67, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of replacing the user with an alternate user (Acosta: column 31, lines 30-37), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses for alerting a user of a computer of an emergency at a remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: maintaining the computer in communication with a sensor at the remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35); transmitting a signal indicative of a predetermined event detected by the sensor to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 25-28); transmitting video data from a camera at the remotely monitored location to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 50-60), as in claim 68. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of causing the computer to preempt a program unrelated to the monitoring to display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 68.

Regarding claim 69, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, discloses using a browser (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 70, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the program being a word processor (Acosta: column 6, lines 45-50), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 71, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses for alerting a user of a computer of an emergency at a remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: transmitting a signal indicative of a predetermined event detected by the sensor to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 25-28); transmitting video data from a camera at the remotely monitored location to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 50-60), as in claim 72. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of causing the computer to preempt a program unrelated to the monitoring to display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in

order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 72.

Regarding claim 73, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 74, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, of transmitting the signal to a TV set to sound an alarm to inform the user of the predetermined event detected at the sensor (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a method for a user of a data network to monitor remote locations in exchange for a value (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: receiving a data stream generated by a sensor at a remote location (Acosta: column 28, lines 45-64); monitoring the data stream for an amount of time (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-60) as in claim 75. However, Acosta receiving credit to a user account for monitoring the data stream for that amount of time. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station

managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 75.

Regarding claim 76, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, includes the step of transmitting an account identifier (Acosta: column 28, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 77, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of transmitting a task identifier (Von Kohorn: column 79, lines 20-25; column 79, lines 63-68; column 80, lines 1-41; column 82, lines 30-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 78, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has communication across the Internet (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 79, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has both audio and video communication (Acosta: column 55, lines 45-55), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 80, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the credit being monetary (Von Kohorn: column 26, lines 10-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 81-82, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of monitoring a plurality of data streams (Acosta: column 26, lines 25-30), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 83-84, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of monitoring the data stream includes the step of monitoring for an emergency (Acosta: column 9, lines 35-45), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 85, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of receiving a predetermined video of an emergency (Acosta: column 27, lines 55-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 86, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of receiving queries and responding to the queries (Von Kohorn: column 71, lines 25-42), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a method for alerting a user of a computer of an emergency at a remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: maintaining the computer in communication with a sensor at the remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35); running a program on the computer, wherein the program is unrelated to remote monitoring (Acosta: column 6, lines 45-55), as in claim 87. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of causing the computer to preempt a program unrelated to the monitoring to display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta

method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 87.

Regarding claim 88, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, discloses using a browser (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 89, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 90, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of preempting including displaying the video data (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a method for alerting an individual of an emergency at a remote location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: receiving a signal indicative of a predetermined event detected by a sensor at the remote location (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-67) as in claim 91. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of causing a television set to preempt a program a television program display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event on a TV (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this

teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 91.

Regarding claim 92, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 93, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, of transmitting the signal to a TV set to sound an alarm to inform the user of the predetermined event detected at the sensor (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a system for managing remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): receive a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location (Acosta: column 28, lines 45-55); determine a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enable communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68), as in claim 94. However, Acosta fails to disclose crediting value to the user in accordance with an amount of time that the user device has been in communication with the sensor for remote monitoring purposes. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events

(Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 94.

Regarding claim 95, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the user device being a computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 96, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the request including an account identifier (Acosta: column 28, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 97, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has a task identifier (Von Kohorn: column 79, lines 20-25; column 79, lines 63-68; column 80, lines 1-41; column 82, lines 30-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 98, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has a step for determining a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 99, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of registering users (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-20), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 100, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has communication across the Internet (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 101, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has both audio and video communication (Acosta: column 55, lines 45-55), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 102-104, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has determining whether predetermined criteria have been satisfied prior enabling communication between the sensor and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 39-52), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 105, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the steps of disabling communication between the sensor at the remote location and the user (Acosta: column 17, lines 40-68; column 18, lines 1-5), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 106-107, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has transmitting a test communication to the user at a the user device (Von Kohorn: column 71, lines 30-42), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 108-109, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has outputting an offer to the user at the user device to enter the user in a sweepstakes (Von Kohorn: column 64, lines 30-65), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 110-112, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has transmitting entertainment video at the user device (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 45-51), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 113, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has contacting a third party in response to the received notification (Acosta: column 7, lines 40-60; column 9, lines 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 114, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of determining a pay-rate and crediting value to the user in accordance with the pay-rate (Acosta: column 14, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 115, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has crediting value to a financial account (Von Kohorn: column 26, lines 10-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 116, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has crediting value to the user including a bonus for each legitimate emergency detected by the users (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a system for managing remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): assign to a user of a data networks a remote monitoring task (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65) including a remote location to monitor (Acosta: column 26, lines 25-35) and a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-49); and provide the user with

information relating to the remote monitoring task (Acosta: column 7, lines 30-40) as in claim 117. However, Acosta fails to disclose that the information would be transmitted to the user by the central server at the start of a shift. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station including information to be transmitted to the user at the start of an event in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 117.

Regarding claim 118, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the request including an account identifier (Acosta: column 28, lines 60-65), a task identifier (Von Kohorn: column 79, lines 20-25; column 79, lines 63-68; column 80, lines 1-41; column 82, lines 30-40), and the shift (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 119-120, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has determining whether predetermined criteria have been satisfied prior to providing the user with the information (Acosta: column 26, lines 39-52), as in the claims.

Regarding claims 121-123, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of prevent a user from monitoring a remote location (Acosta: column 16, lines 55-68; column 17, lines 1-16), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 124, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has assigning a remote monitoring task based on user preferences (Acosta: column 31, lines 30-46), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 125, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has contacting a third party in response to the received notification (Acosta: column 7, lines 40-60; column 9, lines 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 126, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of reminding the user of the remote monitoring task prior to the start of the shift (Acosta: column 11, lines 20-25), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a system for managing remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): determine a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enable communication between a sensor at the remote location and a plurality of users of a data network (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68); determine an amount of time each user of the plurality of users has monitored the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 35-60), as in claim 127. However, Acosta fails to disclose crediting value to each user of the plurality of users for monitoring the remote location in accordance with the amount of time that each user has

monitored the remote location. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 127.

Regarding claim 128, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has a step for determining a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 129, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of recruiting users (Von Kohorn: column 50, lines 30-50), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 130, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has informing a user of the plurality of users (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 131-132, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has contacting a third party in response to the received notification (Acosta: column 7, lines 40-60; column 9, lines 35-45), as in the claims.

Acosta discloses a system for managing remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): receive a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location in exchange for value (Acosta: column 28, lines 45-55); determine a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enable communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68), as in claim 133. However, Acosta fails to disclose measuring user attentiveness while the user device is in communication with the sensor Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users for measured attentiveness (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) while watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 133.

Regarding claim 134, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the user device being a computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 135, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has a step for determining a shift for monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 26, lines 15-25), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 136-138, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has determining whether predetermined criteria have been satisfied prior enabling communication between the sensor and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 39-52), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 139, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has crediting value to a financial account (Von Kohorn: column 26, lines 10-40), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 140-145, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of transmitting a test communication to the user at the user device (Acosta: column 71, lines 25-41; column 82, lines 26-49), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 146, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has enabling a second user to monitor the user monitoring the remote location (Acosta: column 31, lines 33-38), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 147, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of causing an audible alarm to be transmitted to the user at the user if the user is not attentive (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 148-152, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of penalizing the user (Acosta: column 27, lines 25-37), as in the claims.

Regarding claim 153, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of replacing the user with an alternate user (Acosta: column 31, lines 30-37), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses for alerting a user of a computer of an emergency at a remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): maintain the computer in communication with a sensor at the remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35); transmit a signal indicative of a predetermined event detected by the sensor to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 25-28); transmit video data from a camera at the remotely monitored location to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 50-60), as in claim 154. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of causing the computer to preempt a program unrelated to the monitoring to display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into

the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 154.

Regarding claim 155, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, discloses using a browser (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 156, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the program being a word processor (Acosta: column 6, lines 45-50), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 157, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses for alerting a user of a computer of an emergency at a remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): transmit a signal indicative of a predetermined event detected by the sensor to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 25-28); transmit video data from a camera at the remotely monitored location to the computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 50-60), as in claim 158. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of causing the computer to preempt a program unrelated to the monitoring to display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for

watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 158.

Regarding claim 159, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 160, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, of transmitting the signal to a TV set to sound an alarm to inform the user of the predetermined event detected at the sensor (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a system for alerting a user of a computer of an emergency at a remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): maintain the computer in communication with a sensor at the remotely monitored location (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35); run a program on the computer, wherein the program is unrelated to remote monitoring (Acosta: column 6, lines 45-55), as in claim 161. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of

causing the computer to preempt a program unrelated to the monitoring to display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 161.

Regarding claim 162, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, discloses using a browser (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 163, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 164, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of preempting including displaying the video data (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a system for alerting an individual of an emergency at a remote location (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68;

column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): receive a signal indicative of a predetermined event detected by a sensor at the remote location (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-67) as in claim 165. However, Acosta fails to disclose the step of causing a television set to preempt a program a television program display the video data. Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) for watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station to preempt a program unrelated to the video event on a TV (Von Kohorn: column 65, lines 20-30) in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 165.

Regarding claim 166, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, uses a predetermined level of motion (Acosta: column 9, lines 1-5 and 35-45), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 167, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, of transmitting the signal to a TV set to sound an alarm to inform the user of the predetermined event detected at the sensor (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claim.

Acosta discloses a method for a central server to manage remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: receiving a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location (Acosta: column 28, lines 45-55); determining a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enabling communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68), as in claim 168. However, Acosta fails to disclose crediting value to the user in accordance with an amount of time that the user device has been in communication with the sensor and measuring user attentiveness while the user device is in communication with the sensor Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward method for crediting users for measured attentiveness (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) while watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward method into the Acosta method in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has all of the features of claim 168.

Regarding claim 169, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the user device being a computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 170, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the user device being a TV set (Acosta: column 69, lines 15-27), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 171, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the request being received across the Internet (Acosta: column 8. lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 172-173, the Acosta remote station managing method now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward method, has the step of transmitting a signal indicative of a predetermined event (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claims.

Acosta discloses a system for a central server to manage remote monitoring tasks (Acosta: column 17, lines 10-25), comprising: a memory device (Acosta: column 21, lines 60-68; column 22, lines 1-4); a processor in communication with the memory device, and configured to (Acosta: column 6, lines 30-40): receive a request from a user of a user device to monitor a remote location (Acosta: column 28, lines 45-55); determine a remote location to be monitored (Acosta: column 17, lines 45-65); enabling communication between a sensor at the remote location and the user device (Acosta: column 26, lines 40-68), as in claim 1174. However, Acosta fails to disclose crediting value to the user in accordance with an amount of time that the user device has been in communication with the sensor and measuring user attentiveness while the user device is in communication with the sensor Von Kohorn discloses a remote station (Von Kohorn: column 63, lines 10-16) with response reward system for crediting users for measured attentiveness (Von Kohorn: column 67, lines 65-68; column 68, lines 1-9) while watching certain video events (Von Kohorn: column 72, lines 45-55) distributed from central station in order to

ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event (Von Kohorn: column 69, lines 1-45). Accordingly, given this teaching, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the Von Kohorn response reward system into the Acosta system in order to ensure the user's interaction with the transmitted event. The Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has all of the features of claim 174.

Regarding claim 175, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the user device being a computer (Acosta: column 8, lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 176, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the user device being a TV set (Acosta: column 69, lines 15-27), as in the claim.

Regarding claim 177, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the request being received across the Internet (Acosta: column 8. lines 30-35), as in the claim.

Regarding claims 178-179, the Acosta remote station managing system now incorporating the Von Kohorn response reward system, has the step of transmitting a signal indicative of a predetermined event (Acosta: column 27, lines 60-65), as in the claims.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Madden discloses temporal smoothing of scene analysis data for image sequence generation. Klein discloses an apparatus for alerting a human operator to status conditions of an

intelligent video information management system. Vaios discloses an intelligent multi-access system.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy S. Rao whose telephone number is (703)-305-4813. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris S. Kelley can be reached on (703)-305-4856. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)-308-6606 for regular communications and (703)-308-6606 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-4700.

Andy S. Rao
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

ANDY RAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

asr
October 17, 2001